



MINUTES

PARKS & RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD MEETING

Tuesday, May 3, 2005

6:00 p.m.

Marty Robbins Recreation Center
11600 Vista Del Sol

Members Present

Bernie Sargent, Chairman
Eileen Karlsruher, Vice Chairman
Daniel Delahaye
Cherilyn Dorsey
Alma Wilson
Charlotte Johnson
Brent Sanders
Jose L. Gutierrez
Kelly Duke
Salvador Quintanilla

Members Absent

Yolanda Cordova
Walt Phillips
Mitch Doblado
Olga E. Holguin
Alejandro Sanchez
Robert A. Gonzales
Henry Stokes
Robert A. Gonzales
Alice Davis

Staff Present

Dr. Norman C. Merifield
Lucy Martinez
Joe Rodriguez
Doug Barnes
Paula Powell
Pete Dunavant

Others Present:

Juan Contreras, P+3
Raymond Bader, Ext. Serv.

1. **Meeting called to order** by Chairman, Bernie Sargent 6:25 p.m.
2. **Motion to approve minutes of April 5, 2005; Motion made by Sal Quintanilla, seconded by Brent Sanders; all in favor motion passed unanimously.**
3. **Petitions & Communicatons from the Public Sector:** None Given
4. **Status Report of QOL Projects by Juan Contreras, P+3:** Pavo Real Swimming Pool will be going out to bid for Architectual and Engineering services. The firm will be selected within the next two months. The pool will receive a complete renovation including the existing bath house. A selection committee will be recommending the Architect for Ft. Bliss Soccer Complex on Thursday, May 5th. Today there are forty one Parks improvements under design.

The final site plan will be completed for Westside Sports Complex on Wednesday, May 4th and based on final input by the Parks Department a community meeting will be scheduled for public comments.

The pre-final drawings for the Westside Community Park and Recreation Center are completed and being reviewed by Park staff and will be finalized by the end of May. Additional bids are as follows: Cloudview awarded April 26th, Veterans Park renovation awarded the end of April, Rose Garden and the Grand View Pool renovation awarded May 3rd. Northeast Regional Park issues are being ironed out and will start mid May; contract has been awarded. Parks completed: Marty Robbins Recreation Center and new indoor swimming pool.

5. **Recognition of Sierra Providence Health Network for \$20,000 Grant Contribution:** Rene Hurtado, Director of Media/Consumer Information for Sierra Providence Health Network was presented with a Plaque in recognition for the \$20,000 Grant contribution for Park Programs. The Grant will be divided between four programs: \$5000 for Senior Games; \$5000 for Healthy Hearts with Parks; \$5000 for Lower Valley Summer Programs and \$5000 for Grandparents Day.
6. **Information and Discussion on Dog Parks by Steven Silvers:** Steven Silvers, Executive Director of Groundworks El Paso introduced his new organization and discussed their mission. Groundwork's interest is to work with the Parks Department in the development of unleashed dog parks. Groundwork's goal is not necessarily to develop additional dog parks but to identify areas large enough to create exercise/off leash areas and not take away any of the green space that already exist in our public parks. They pledge their support with Parks and Recreation Department to develop other dog parks.
7. **Information and Discussion on Status of Repair of the E. Howard Clock at San Jacinto Plaza:** Gary Williams who works with the El Paso Community Foundation stated he works with a variety of funds that are donated for the enhancement of quality of life in El Paso. The Renaissance Fund is being used for the clock repair and is dedicated to the downtown revitalization and renovations. The City has a 1910 antique clock under Parks stewardship located in front of the Plaza Theater. It is 18 feet high, cast iron with internal workings and it originally arrived in El Paso in 1911. It sits in front of what is now the Plaza Theater. The Parks and Recreation Department takes care of this clock along with volunteers from Rio Grande Clock Fund. The clock stopped completely and was found that the bushings were worn. David Seay of Manhattan, Kansas owner of Regulator Time Company was contracted to work on the clock. It was removed in February and shipped to Kansas and will be back this June. When completed a little more than \$23,000 will be provided in repairs. The original color will also be restored. A dedication ceremony will be held and everyone will be invited.
8. **Discussion and Action by Sal Quintanilla on the Appeal at the Acosta Sports Grievance Subcommittee held Thursday, March 10, 2005:** 1) Appeal on Ms. Veronne Clark suspended for 1 year for playing more than 1 team 2) Coach Michael Zunica suspended from coaching for 1 year for knowingly having players not previously signed in at beginning of season. No new evidence presented. **Motion to uphold suspension 1) by Daniel Delahaye; seconded by Cherlyn Dorsey; all in favor; First motion passed unanimously. Motion to uphold 2nd suspension by Brent Sanders, seconded by Cherlyn Dorsey; all in favor; Second motion passed unanimously**
9. **Information and Discussion on New General Park Signage:** Dr. Norman C. Merrifield, Director of Parks and Recreation stated that the Parks Department is investigating new Park signs to be used for all parks not having a sign. The sign must withstand our hot weather and graffiti. Two thirds of Parks are in need of a park sign. A sample of a sign is at White Spur Park and at the Parks Department.
10. **Meeting Adjourned: 7:40 p.m.**